

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1. A group pickup system in a communication network having one or
2 more servers, comprising:
3 an invite request unit to invoke the group pickup system;
4 a group pickup request unit responsive to said invite request unit to
5 establish a connection to a group pickup destination to enable a caller station
6 to be pickup up from said destination, said destination being a user selectable
7 location located on any server anywhere within the network; and
8 a retrieval request unit to connect a call pickup station with said caller
9 station.

1 2. The system as recited in claim 1 further including an exception
2 handler adapted to handle failures in the group pickup system.

1 3. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said call pickup party
2 may be located on any server within the network.

1 4. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said parked caller may
2 be picked up from any server within the network.

1 5. The system as recited in claim 2, wherein said network failure
2 may include excessive network congestion.

1 6. The system as recited in claim 2, wherein said network failure
2 may include a vacant number.

1 7. The system as recited in claim 2, wherein said network failure
2 may include no route to destination.

1 8. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said user selectable
2 park location is said destination's background task.

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2 9. A method for picking up a call in a group pickup system in a
3 communication network having one or more servers, comprising the steps of:
4 invoking the group pickup system;
5 establishing a connection to a group pickup destination to enable
6 said caller to be parked at said destination, said destination being a user
7 selectable parking location located anywhere within the network; and
7 connecting a call pickup party with said parked caller.

1 10. The method as recited in claim 9, further including the step of
2 handling failures in the group pickup system.

1 11. The method as recited in claim 9, further including the step of
2 picking up a caller from anywhere within the network.

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2 12. A group pickup system in a communication network having one
3 or more servers, comprising:
4 means for invoking the group pickup system;
5 means responsive to said invoking means for establishing a
6 connection to a group pickup destination to enable said caller to be parked at
7 said destination, said destination being a user selectable parking location
7 located anywhere within the network; and
8 means for connecting a call pickup party with said parked caller.

1 13. The system as recited in claim 12 further including means for
2 handling failures in the group pickup system.

1 14. The system as recited in claim 12, further including means for
2 picking up a parked caller from anywhere within the network.